Government has constituted an inter-ministerial committee under the Section 20 of the Cable Television Networks (Regulation) Act, 1995 to look into the violations of the Advertising Code. Cognizance of any violation of Advertising Code is taken *suo-moto* or on receipt of specific complaints by the Committee. Show cause notices are issued in the first instance to TV channels telecasting advertisements in violation of provisions of the Advertising Code and after examination of each case, TV channels are directed not to telecast or retelecast advertisements, which are found to be in violation of the Code. This is a continuing process. Orders have been issued to a number of TV channels for violation of the Code. There is no provision in the Act for taking action against advertisers.

Purchasing of Set Top Boxes for CAS

812. DR. DASARI NARAYANA RAO: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) the steps Government have taken to protect interests of the poor viewers who cannot afford Set Top Boxes while enforcing CAS wherein Cable TV viewers will have to purchase such boxes;

(b) whether such viewers can watch free to air channels through routine antenna at their roof tops; and

(c) if not, what action Government have taken to ensure that poor viewers can watch the free channels without depending on the Cable TV Operators?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD): (a) to (c) Set Top Box (STB) will be required for watching Pay Channels only. Free-to-air channels will be available to consumers through cable network without STB, for which Government has specified the price of Rs. 72/-(plus taxes) for basic service tier comprising not less than 30 FTA channels of different genres. Since free-to-air channels are transmitted through satellite and cable network, these cannot be watched through routine antenna, fixed on roof tops with the exception of the Doordarshan terrestrial channels.